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July/August 2001 Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department



Captain I Gerald Jaskulski, 2001 Firefighter of the Year



Edward L. Stinnette

"As we go about our daily business of providing either emergency or non-emergency services, the youth of this county look to us as role models."

From The Fire Chief . . .

The focus on this month's column is mentoring. It's a subject that I feel very strongly about because it provides a way that we can directly influence at risk youth in Fairfax County. After all, that's why most of us got into this profession in the first place, to help others.

Webster defines a mentor as "a trusted counselor or guide, a tutor, a coach." For the most part, most firefighters mentor in some manner every day. Because we are involved with the public, every day we have the opportunity to provide guidance or coaching in all kinds of settings. As we go about our daily business of providing either emergency or non-emergency services, the youth of this county look to us as role models. It's an important role that we sometimes take for granted, but it does make a difference.

There are many benefits to being a mentor, the most important benefit is the satisfaction you get when you are successful in making a positive influence in someone's life, especially a young person's life. Personally, I've been a mentor for over a year now with a youngster that was referred to the juvenile court system. I have been mentoring this young man as both a professional and as a friend. I listen a lot, provide guidance, and then listen some more. Being a mentor is not hard work. Nor does it require being an expert in social work. Being a mentor requires

just a small amount of time, concern for the person, and a desire to help young people.

There are many opportunities in our communities and within your specific response areas to mentor. There are numerous schools, youth centers, and gathering places where youths of all ages can be found. Many firefighters and a few stations already have a mentoring program in place. I applaud these programs and the efforts of those involved. As an example, several station captains have adopted a school in their districts. One day a month those station personnel have lunch with the students. The feedback I've received to date indicates that these programs are successful and I wholeheartedly encourage all stations to consider implementing a similar program.

I must admit that when I became a mentor I was unsure if I had the skills and training to do what was expected of me. I was somewhat apprehensive and didn't want to fail this young person. I finally realized it was the ability to listen, a desire to get involved, and a sense of caring for these young people that desperately need a positive, and stable influence in their lives are the essentials for being a good mentor. As a firefighter, you are already a role model. I would encourage and challenge you to reach out and take the extra step and become a mentor. ♦

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From The Editor . . .



We will again open up all 35 fire and rescue stations for Fire Prevention Week, October 13, 2001. Our Open House is scheduled from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

For the last three years, "Fire Drills: The Great Escape!" was the campaign theme that focused on home fire escape planning and practice. This year the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) will use a baseball theme, entitled "Cover the Bases & Strike Out Fire."

The campaign combines America's favorite pastime with important fire safety tips to teach children and their families how they can "cover the bases" to "strike out" preventable home fires. As always, we try to make a special effort to include children in our Fire Prevention Week campaign, we also want your help and the help of neighborhood children in your first-due area.

Cooking, heating, and electrical fires account for half of all home fires. As such, "Cover the Bases & Strike Out Fire" positions kitchen safety at first base, heating safety at second base, and electrical safety at third. Home plate serves as a reminder to kids to conduct smoke alarm testing and home fire escape planning with parents and caregivers.

Our plan is to provide all stations with theme signs to promote Open House. We'll be providing each station with a kit that includes: posters, stickers, brochures for kids, brochures for adults, and a fire facts newsletter. They will be delivered in plenty of time for Open House. We hope that you will take the theme and "run with it." We endorse using local baseball and softball teams as a method to generate interest and involvement—local involvement is key.

Fire Prevention Open House is just another opportunity to open our doors and reach out to our citizens and put our best foot forward. I look forward to seeing as many firefighters as possible "telling the fire and rescue" story and educating our citizens, and showing them the value of what you do.



Upcoming Events

September

- 6 Child Seat Safety Check
Mount Vernon
Fire and Rescue Station No. 9
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 8 Child Seat Safety Check
St. Lukes United Methodist Church
7628 Leesburg Pike
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

October

- 2 Child Seat Safety Check
Fairview
Fire and Rescue Station No. 32
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 7 - 13 Fire Prevention Week
- 13 Fire Prevention Week Open House
- 15 Child Seat Safety Check
Frying Pan
Fire and Rescue Station No. 36
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

November

- 1 Child Seat Safety Check
Bailey's Crossroads
Fire and Rescue Station No. 10
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 14 Child Seat Safety Check
Mount Vernon
Fire and Rescue Station No. 9
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

December

- 3 Child Seat Safety Check
Fair Oaks
Fire and Rescue Station No. 21
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 10 Child Seat Safety Check
North Point
Fire and Rescue Station No. 39
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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Line Copy can be viewed on the Fairfax County
Fire and Rescue Department Web Site.

Our Web Site address is:

<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/fire>

Captain I Gerald Jaskulski Selected As 2001 Firefighter of the Year

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department established the Firefighter of the Year award in 1985 to honor a department uniformed member whose outstanding service and selfless dedication are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. Firefighter of the Year is the most prestigious honor the department bestows upon one of its own.

Captain Jaskulski, a 25-year veteran, currently works at the Public Safety Communications Center as a uniformed fire officer, has been selected the 2001 Firefighter of the Year award. For more than eight years, he has provided communications support in the field of emergency dispatch operations. As a uniformed fire officer, he provided guidance and direction to dispatch staff, and ensured consistent and constant reallocation of fire and emergency medical resources were available for all emergency incidents. He provided guidance to call-takers when required, sometimes providing critical pre-arrival instruction and calm reassurance to callers who were experiencing a tragic personal emergency.

Captain Jaskulski was recently made

responsible for two major projects that will enhance the overall delivery of emergency services to the community. He coordinated the installation of all 800 MHz radios, including

programming and training. He was also tasked with coordinating the Altaris project that will modify current dispatch programming without costly algorithm changes.



The Jaskulski family are all smiles following the Firefighter of the Year Ceremony August 1, 2001. From (left to right) are daughter, Jamie, Captain Jaskulski, wife, Nancy, and daughter, Jill.



Captain Jaskulski and his brother Gary (left) and his father Joe (right) were all able to celebrate this special occasion together. Gary also works at Public Safety Communications Center (PSCC).

In Memoriam

Captain II Paul A. Nichols

February 28, 1977 - September 2, 2001

Captain II Paul A. Nichols, Jr., husband, father, and Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Communications Supervisor, died Sunday, September 2, 2001, in Virginia Beach at the age of 47. Captain Nichols was born on January 25, 1954, was a lifelong resident of Fairfax, Virginia. Paul attended public school and graduated from Fairfax High School. As a youth, Paul was active in scouting and played clarinet in the high school marching band. Paul's summer job as a lifeguard at the Bull Run Regional Park foreshadowed his future choice of a career in serving and protecting the public.

Paul attended Alderson-Broaddus College in Phillipi, West Virginia, earning a BS in Biology in 1976. Paul joined the Fairfax City Volunteer Fire Department and trained to become a firefighter and an Emergency Medical Technician, always his first love. What started as an interest became a passion and launched his professional career with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and introduced Paul to his future wife Linnea. Starting as a paramedic he steadily advanced because of his initiative, creative thinking, and hard work, to his present position. In 1981, Captain Nichols received Fairfax County's highest award, the A. Heath Onthank, for innovative coordination of the cardiac care training course.

Paul and Linnea were married on April 12, 1980, had two children: Kristin, 19 and Gregory, 17.

His passion and impressive carpentry skills allowed him to build his dream home, which remains today as a work in progress. As any parent knows, with children comes participation



in many activities. With the same enthusiasm he applied to every other aspect of his life, he plunged himself into T-ball, baseball, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, equestrian competitions, and family skiing. Completing his home life and his need to spoil all living creatures, a menagerie of animals filled every corner of the house. Commitment to serving others permeated every aspect of his life. Whether he rescued friends from the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo, fixed a plumbing disaster at 2 a.m., or gently coaxed an ill father back to health, Paul unselfishly gave his talents, time, and energy which complemented his unique sense of humor. His life was completed by his various hobbies such as, running, weight lifting, and civil war history—and let us never forget motorcycles. ♦



Firefighters Supporting Children, It's Done One Mentor At A Time

By Tania Hindert

Director, Fairfax Mentoring Partnership

The children of Fairfax County need your help. It is often difficult to realize that here in Fairfax County, amid the unprecedented growth and opportunities there are tens of thousands of young people who need extra support and attention—from people like you. In short, these children need mentors. And we're hoping that you, and your colleagues and friends, might volunteer to become a mentor and bring one more caring adult into their world.

What is a mentor? A mentor is a caring, responsible adult that is willing to help a child succeed in life. Why mentoring? Study after study affirms that mentoring is one of the most effective prevention tools available. Mentoring works. Mentoring helps children improve self-esteem, build character, learn life skills, broaden their horizons, plan for college and have fun.

In a landmark nationwide study on mentoring, Big Brothers/Big Sisters found that students who had a mentor were 46 percent less likely to start using drugs, 27 percent less likely to start drinking and 52 percent less likely to skip school.

In Fairfax County, mentoring opportunities are coordinated by the Fairfax Mentoring Partnership (FMP). The FMP works closely with

all of the mentoring programs in Fairfax County and our goals are to recruit and train mentors, to build public support, to ensure quality programs and to build resources to increase the capacity of mentoring. While many programs support

children "in need" (e.g., those who are homeless, suffer from neglect or abuse, or are considered "at-risk"), some programs - such as the school-based MentorWorks support all children, reminding us that every child can benefit from having another caring, responsible adult in their life.

There are many ways to get involved. From programs like

Big Brothers, to adopting a school, where you can have lunch once a week with the students.

For the past year, FMP has been working closely with Chief Stinnette and Lieutenant Patrick J. Morrison (Occupational Health and Safety) as we pilot special mentoring programs involving the Department.

I would urge you to consider becoming a mentor, and know that by doing so you'll not only enrich the life of a young person; you'll enrich your own life and help build a stronger community. To become a mentor, or to learn more about existing opportunities, call (703) 246-895. Visit our web site at www.mentorfairfax.org. ♦



Fire and Rescue Station 35 personnel reach out to young people from the Baileys Crossroads Teen Center during a community outreach event. Firefighter Patricia Tomasello (37-B) fits a helmet on one of the participants.

Highway Mentoring “At Its Best”

*By Captain II John J. Caussin
Station 24, C-Shift*

In April of 2000, Chief Stinnette stopped me in the hall at headquarters and asked me, “aren’t you at Woodlawn now?” Cautiously (what’s coming next?) I answered yes. He then told me of the mentoring program that members at Station 10 had recently started in the Culmore area of the fourth battalion. Based on feedback he had received from one of our members at a Chief’s visit in the sixth battalion, and the persuasion of Tania Hindert, Director of the Fairfax Mentoring Partnership, Chief Stinnette thought it would be a good idea if we tried to initiate a similar program along the Richmond Highway corridor.

The Fire Chief put me in touch with Tania and we discussed what mentoring young people was all about. I learned that being a mentor is simply being there for a youngster who has a need for an adult role model. At my request, Tania came by and spoke with the shift commanders to share the same information that I had already received. We approached our shifts and most of our personnel were somewhat reluctant to commit to something like this. The men and women felt they didn’t have the skills or education necessary to work with kids in this manner. In addition, the majority of our members live outside the county and have commitments involving their own children, part-time employment, church, or their local community that also demanded their time. All of these were valid concerns.

Nevertheless, my fellow officers and I vowed to promote the initiative and continue to investigate ways to get this program going in our district. Captain Tom Schwartz took the initial step by volunteering his time on days off by going to the Students-On-Suspension Program at the Gum Springs Community Center. He worked with kids that had been suspended from school in the local area. Tom discovered that mentoring in this environment would be difficult since kids were

constantly moving through the center. It was not possible to foster the long-term relationships necessary for success. In the meantime, I had been meeting with the principal at Washington Mill Elementary School. We discussed creating an opportunity for mentoring in conjunction with his guidance staff.

I met with the school counselor at Washington Mill and we discussed how firefighters/paramedics could help. The counselor had children that she felt were in need of adult role models. Our goal was to match up individuals on all three shifts with the children she identified and to provide the opportunity to meet at least once a week with the kids, while on duty. All three shifts met with the counselor to take part in a short orientation/training session on mentoring. The counselor reviewed the ground rules and fielded questions from our members. All we needed were individuals willing to commit.

Firefighter Claude V. Person (Station 24, C-Shift) and I volunteered to be the initial mentors to get the ball rolling. From January 2001 until spring break we were consistently dropping by the school and meeting with our kids. Several other members of the shift began inquiring about “getting their own kids.” I was feeling positive about the program. The other shifts were making plans to meet for lunch at the school and eventually match up willing firefighters with kids. The weeks after spring break became a planning nightmare. Due to unscheduled transfers for coverage, detailing personnel, emergency incidents, and other demands on our time, we went over a month without meeting our goal of seeing the kids weekly. Our challenge was that the children got used to us being there regularly for almost three months, and then that abruptly changed. Firefighter Person and I met only twice with our kids between spring and

(continued on page 12)

summer break. When a child is depending on you to be there and you don't show up, it can potentially cause more harm than good. I explained the situation to the school counselor and we agreed that we needed to come up with an alternative.

Like most stations, Station 24 has participated in show-and-tell displays at local elementary and pre-schools, Fourth of July parades, Christmas pageants, National Night Out, and community picnics. Many of our members are involved with the International Association of Fire Fighters and Local 2068's participation in the Children's National Burn Camp and the annual MDA Fill the Boot campaign. Our goal should be to maximize the opportunities presented as we participate in these events. I know that many of us over the years have been mentors to a young volunteer or neighborhood kid without even realizing we were providing this guidance or support. Unlike many other professions, people inherently trust and look up to firefighters and paramedics. We should not dilute that trust and should use it to make a difference when an opportunity presents itself.

Station 24's plan for this coming school year is for each shift to adopt one of the elementary schools in our first due. We will schedule at least one lunch date with the kids each month. This will give us the opportunity to consistently maintain contact and meet the needs of that child who need a positive adult influence in their life.

Members that may be interested in becoming a mentor or would like additional information should contact me at Station 24, C-Shift, or Tania Hindert at (703) 246-3895. ❖



Local Girl Scouts donate teddy bears and puppets to EMS personnel at Fire and Rescue Station 17, B-Shift. The teddy bears and puppets will be provided to young patients.



Technician Reid F. Marcey from Fire and Rescue Station 8, A-Shift, receives a Career Achievement Award for safe driving. Fire and Rescue Station 8, A-Shift, members look on as they show their support.

Ladder Work – Doing It Right, Matters

*By Deputy Chief Jeffrey B. Coffman
Support Services
(First in a Series)*

All of us have been involved in conversations about ladder work at building fires. We talk about apparatus positioning, laddering the building to gain access, and placement for firefighter escape.

Apparatus positioning is a basic fireground activity that easily affects the operation in a positive way or in a way that impedes efficient company-level work. At building fires, the truck gets the front of the building. Certainly there are exceptions, but this must be the rule. Also, there are circumstances and factors that limit the ability of our apparatus to position in an optimum way. A fire in a house that sits at the end of a long narrow driveway may mean that the only unit that gets anywhere near the structure might be one engine.

Positioning at different occupancy types varies. Units should not assume that apparatus positioning is the same at a single-family dwelling (SFD) as it is at a row of townhouses or at an apartment building. It's important to remember that we now have a large number of apartment buildings that are not "garden-type" apartments. For example, at a house fire in a subdivision, the first due engine should go past the involved house stopping in front of the next house. This allows the officer to

see three sides of the building before exiting the rig. Assuming the truck is entering the block from the same direction as the engine did, this provides the truck with a clear area along the entire front of the home.

The second due engine must then take a position that fulfills the water supply need, yet does not block the rear of the truck for tool and ground ladder removal. This simply means that

no fire department vehicle should ever be any closer than 50 feet to the rear of an aerial ladder or tower ladder. And yes, chiefs, that applies to you, too.

Positioning at townhouse or rowhouse fires is somewhat different than SFDs. The location of the fire within the building is one of the determining factors when positioning ladder companies. Engines must always ensure adequate room is left for the



trucks. Assume a top floor fire in a row of six townhouses. The involved unit is the fourth one in from the left as you face the row. Apparatus approach is from left to right. The engine must not only go past the involved unit, they must place themselves as many as two or more addresses beyond. These are attached units that often are only 25 feet wide. If the engine goes three addresses beyond the involved unit, the

(continued on page 12)

Hot Shots



Firefighters from Fire and Rescue Station 19, C-Shift, extricate the trapped driver of a passenger vehicle during a head-on collision at the intersection of Furnace Road and Hooes Road.



Technician Tony Doran (25-A) was hoisted by a tower crane to complete an above-ground rescue. The patient was transported by Medic 425 personnel to Inova Fairfax Hospital. The patient was removed from a high-rise office building under construction in the Reston area. (Photo by Firefighter Patrick Kelly (25-A).



The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department hosts a multi-jurisdictional simulated weapons of mass destruction exercise on September 8, 2001. The exercise was designed to evaluate preparedness and procedures. Major goals of the exercise included: operation of a unified command system, mass decontamination of patients, determining resource requirements, integrating crime scene operations and mutual aid resources, and coordination of a mass casualty response with area medical facilities.



This two-story home located at 9532 Whitecedar Court in Vienna was destroyed by fire. An explosion in a faulty gas hot water heater started the fire. Fire investigators estimated the loss at \$500,000. (Photo by Josh Allen)

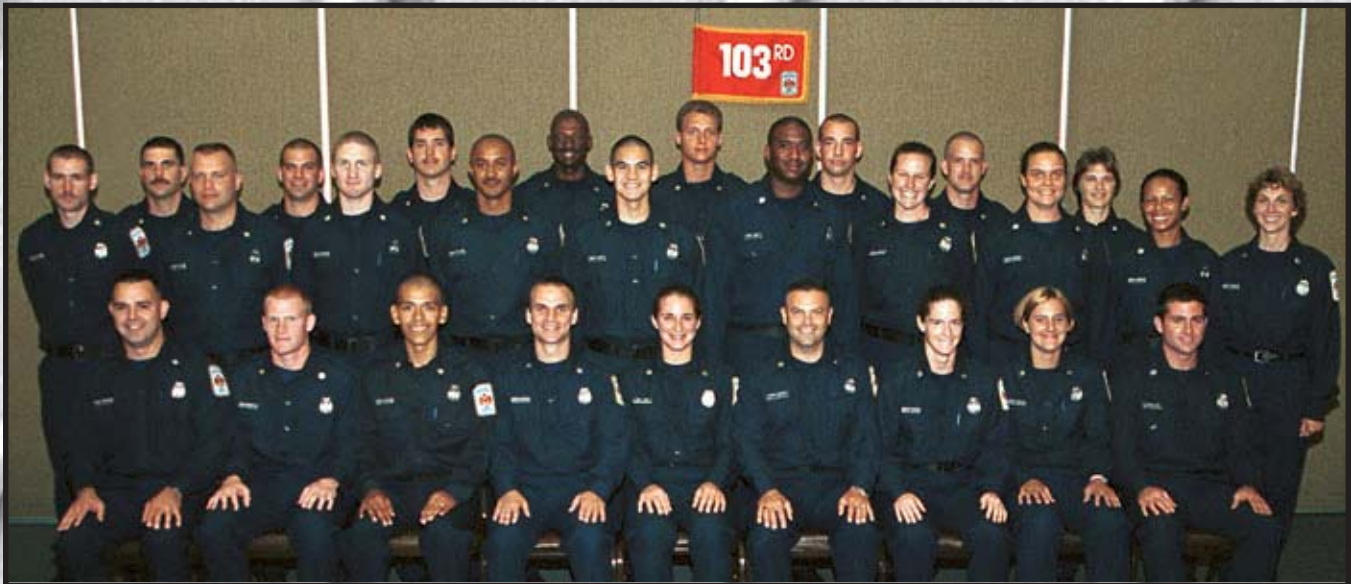


Lightning destroys a Centreville home . . . a single-family home located at 6752 Grey Post Court sustaining \$413,000 in damage, including two vehicles inside the garage. No one was home at the time of the fire.



Four occupants of this vehicle escaped serious injury when the vehicle overturned on the Fairfax County Parkway and Braddock Road. Units from Fire and Rescue Station 17, 21, and 32 responded to the incident.

103rd Recruit School



First row (left to right): Firefighter Glenn W. Dressler, Firefighter Craig S. Furneisen, Firefighter Rolando E. Contreras, Firefighter Steven T. Onufrey, Firefighter Linda J. Post, Firefighter Jorge E. Loayza, Firefighter Deborah G. Sparrer, Firefighter Susan Varholy, and Firefighter Thomas R. Hipp. Back row (left to right): Firefighter Richard D. Gundert, Firefighter Reid V. Lottchea, Firefighter Robert Wiencko, Firefighter Daniel R. McNeece, Firefighter Stephan J. Swierizek, Firefighter Thomas G. Arnold, Firefighter Derrick O. Colden, Firefighter Jimmie Backus, Firefighter Kevin F. Reyes, Firefighter Thomas E. Biller, Firefighter Ryan J. Ward, Firefighter Robert E. Pickle Jr., Firefighter Katja H. Walsh, Firefighter Shannon G. Reed, Firefighter Nichole Y. Gadell, Firefighter Kim Kapes, Firefighter Miranda Lambermond, and Firefighter Pamela J. Dailey.

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200-foot pre-connected 1 ¾ hose will still have 125 feet to operate with. Even if the fire is on the top floor of a three-story townhouse, you will still have more hose than needed. Undoubtedly, there will be some loops of hose out front.

However, if the truck enters the block containing the involved unit from the opposite direction of the first-due engine, a decision must be made. Does the engine stop short of the building, or does it move past? If the street is wide enough to allow the truck to get past the engine to take a position in front, fine. Otherwise, the engine must stop short. Units that typically run together know response routes. However, occasionally, there is a need for radio communication to clarify the direction of approach.

The engines are now in good tactical position, yet out of the way. The truck arrives. Where exactly should it park? Back to the top floor fire as an example. Fire extension into the attic is probable, particularly if fire is out of one or more windows. The officer and driver need to evaluate wind direction and intensity. The turntable should ideally be positioned at the party wall on the upwind side of the fire, that's the wall that separates the involved unit from the first exposure. Why here and not directly in front? The turntable position at this location allows for maximum flexibility in using the aerial. The ladder can be raised to any window on the involved unit, ladder the roof of the unit for ventilation or ladder the roof of the exposure for access. Additionally, given the narrow dimensions of townhouses, the ladder still will have enough reach to access the roof or windows of the exposure on the opposite side of the involved unit, if necessary.

If more than one unit is involved, as was the case at the three-alarm on Marshall Heights Court, November, 2000, then the trucks need to position at the flanks of the fire. This simply means the truck needs to position beyond the current area of involvement and with more than one task in mind. Perhaps the ladder is going to be used immediately for access for rescue or ventilation. However, ten minutes later, it might

be going into a master stream operation.

Repositioning the truck if the operation is still in an offensive mode is not practical and is a sign that the initial size-up was inadequate.

Positioning at apartment buildings is different yet. Positioning of ladder companies must always be done with multiple tasks in mind. Is the fire near a corner of the building or is it toward the center of one of the sides? What is the wind direction? Are there any people showing? Is the fire on a lower level or is it a top floor or cockloft fire?

Truck companies must have the ability to maneuver to take the best available position. Often this is on or near the corner of the building. However, if there are no windows at the ends of the building, as might be the case on a garden-style apartment, then the corner position is less important. It's also important to consider which address of a garden apartment building contains the fire. Again, as with a townhouse, position the turntable at a dividing wall, not necessarily directly in front of the address. For the same reasons as with townhouses, your position should be with multiple tasks in mind.

In apartment houses that are not of the garden design, access to more windows and balconies will be needed. These buildings have a similar look on all four sides. Truck apparatus positioning must be on the corners at these structures. Aerial ladder and tower ladder usage should be relied upon. Fires at these buildings require access to all levels and the roof. Ground ladder placement will need to supplement use of aerial devices, but remember that one person can get the aerial into position alone, if necessary, and to the most critical point on the building.

Truck placement at strip shopping centers is based upon gaining access to the roof and possible use of master streams. Our procedure states that the first due truck goes to the rear and the second due takes the front. This is predicated on the ability to ladder the roof in the rear without the problems associated with getting over parapets that are common on the front of shopping centers.

The exception to this order of assignments is when the first due truck is a tower ladder. In that case, the tower ladder goes to the front and the second due truck takes the rear. This is based upon the versatility of the master stream from tower ladders and their ability to operate at ground level directing a heavy caliber stream deep into a well-involved structure as well as penetrating the heat and cooling on the underside of the roof assembly. This is particularly valuable in non-combustible construction as the tower ladder stream can move as no other stream can and cool the steel bar joists and metal deck roof assembly.

Of course, taking a position in the rear versus the front present different problems. A ladder company taking the rear of a shopping center must contend with dumpsters, utilities, delivery vehicles, lack of light (at night), overhead wires, narrow or nonexistent vehicle access, fire hydrants, and trash and debris in the area. Any or all of these obstacles will present the crew with a challenge in deciding where to position. And positioning the truck should be a decision, not an accident. Consider your objective, the hazards, degree of involvement, type of construction, likelihood of fire extension horizontally, and access in determining where to park the truck that will provide the greatest amount of efficiency and flexibility.

Positioning in the front may be equally as challenging. In the vast majority of cases, trucks parked in the front of a shopping center do not have to worry about access to an above grade floor. Usually, we are dealing with a single-story building. However, the aerial device might still be needed as a secondary means of access and egress from the roof. The biggest and most common challenge in the front is the height of the parapet. Don't be surprised if you raise the aerial to the roof of a shopping center on side A only to find out it is 10 or 15 feet down to the actual roof once you clear the front parapet. Also, often these parapets have been added when an older center was remodeled. You are most likely dealing with a vertical cantilever. Placing a portable ladder against the parapet to get down onto the roof might make it collapse once

firefighters put weight on the ladder.

Positioning at gas leaks is yet another concern and must receive different consideration. True, most gas-leak calls we're called to are minor in nature. But suppose you respond to the one that explodes just after your arrival? The fire department responds to gas leaks because there is a significant potential for fire or explosion as a result of the leak. It is the gas company that is responsible for controlling the flow of gas (not that we shouldn't take prudent action to control a leak if we can safely). However, too many times, engines, trucks, and chief's park their vehicles just like they do at a fire, thinking this is prudent.

Consider this. At the old Atlantic Research building on Cherokee Avenue there was a process in the building that had significant potential for an explosion. The one exterior wall where this process took place was purposely built in a way so that it would easily break apart allowing the energy of an explosion to be expelled in that direction. Well, guess what? There was no parking allowed there and the area near that wall was restricted.

When we respond to a gas leak at a store, for example, the explosion wall is the glass front of the store. Why would we park our rigs there and have our people operate in the exact space that will expel flying glass and debris if an explosion occurs? Well, obviously that's not the best decision. Position the apparatus so that you can effectively operate if a fire or explosion occurs, but so that you are still in service during that event.

Positioning a tower ladder versus an aerial ladder requires different considerations. Again, the officer and driver must be thinking multiple tasks, as well as a possible change in strategy on orders from command. Fires in the lower floors of a building should indicate to the tower ladder crews that they position the rig in such a way as to be able to reach the roof but at the same time, just far enough away from the building to allow operation of the master stream at ground level. This requires practice. The driver must be familiar enough with the needs of the rig to be able to visualize the distance needed to operate the boom at the horizontal position. The key

point is that you also do not want to give up any more vertical reach than necessary, as you may be needed to access the roof or floors above the fire.

If the fire is on the fourth floor or higher, the distance from the building for horizontal operation obviously becomes less of a concern. However, never forget to evaluate the possibility of a collapse when positioning your apparatus, particularly when heavy fire conditions are encountered.

Apparatus positioning has the potential to make or break any fireground operation. Make the decision-making process part of your regular training when considering the size-up for positioning.

(The next part of the series will address placement of ladders at building fires.) ♦

Lieutenant Douglas A. Shaw Places 3rd in World Police and Fire Games



Lieutenant Douglas Shaw (Fire and Rescue Academy) was among 9,500 competitors from 350 units, in 70 events and 56 countries who competed in the World Police and Fire Games held in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 8-16, 2001.

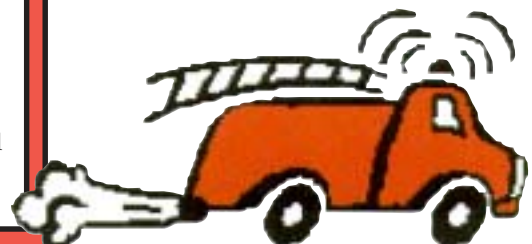
Lieutenant Shaw, a Herndon resident and medic with the Department, earned a bronze medal in the 100-meter breaststroke in the Masters program, and the 200 freestyle medley. He competed in the 50-54 year-old division. ♦

Top 10 Activity Report

June/July 2001

Ambulance		Engine Company		Rescue Company	
Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls
A 410	445	E 410	517	R 426	271
A 409	409	E 409	506	R 418	250
A 413	407	E 422	500	R 421	245
A 430	364	E 408	474	R 401	208
A 408	357	E 411	466	R 411	202
A 436	317	E 413	465	R 419	180
A 411	316	E 404	450	R 414	146
A 437	298	E 429	446	R 439	128
A 428	293	E 421	445		
A 414	268	E 426	440		
Medic		Battalion Chiefs & EMS Captains		Ladder Company	
Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls
M 418	516	EMS4	312	T 410	252
M 426	447	EMS5	281	T 429	240
M 410	436	EMS6	262	T 425	230
M 422	430	EMS1	199	T 405	219
M 421	417	EMS3	197	T 408	215
M 404	409	EMS2	168	T 436	197
M 405	408	BC04	135	T 430	195
M 408	402	BC05	123	T 411	193
M 409	397	BC06	110	T 422	157
M 429	397	BC03	83	T 424	146

Unit activity is compiled from the event history file. A unit must be dispatched to a call to be included in an event history file. A unit add-on is not considered a dispatch. Mutual aid dispatches are included in the activity report.



"Taking Up"



**Deputy Chief
Kenneth L. Jones**

Entry Date: August 9, 1971

Retirement Date: August 31, 2001

Assignments: Fire and Rescue Station 4, 19th Recruit School, 29, 24, 5, 19, 10, 25, 15, Medical Physical Coordinator, Personnel Section, Administration, Support, Staff Services, Occupational Health and Safety, and Training.

Likes about the Fire Department: The ability to be able to help people in need by actual response with emergency apparatus to helping our own personnel in the Occupational Health and Safety sector and support to the USAR personnel on all of their deployments.

Will miss about the Fire Department: I will truly miss the outstanding individuals that I have been blessed to work with over the past 30 years. The department certainly is fortunate to have such high caliber personnel in uniform, civilian and volunteer ranks that place a very high priority on service to the community. A leader cannot accomplish much if the staff is not there in active support and regardless of my assignments over the past 30 years; I have worked with some of the finest emergency and support personnel in any organization.

Plans for the future: Effective September 4, I will take on my greatest challenge when I am sworn in as the Fire Chief for the city of Newport News, Virginia. They currently have nine stations with another under construction and 352 personnel. That is an significant responsibility that Lord willing, the training and skills I have acquired during my tenure with this department will, enable me to guide that department into new areas of service and operational arenas.

Words of wisdom: When you obtain a position of leadership in this organization, remember to look out and take care of your personnel. Never stop striving to do your best. There will be periods of adversity; don't let it get you down, keep plugging away. Never slight your family at the expense of your career because you need their support to make this a meaningful career.

What got you interested in the fire service? I started in an all-volunteer fire department using old military



**Deputy Chief
Ronald L. Mastin**

Entry Date: April 2, 1973

Retirement Date: July 31, 2001

Assignments: Fire and Rescue Stations 11, 22, 24, 27, 30, BC04, BC06, Human Resources, and Operations, A-Shift.

Likes about the Fire Department: The dynamics of emergency incidents and being able to help others. The camaraderie and friendships I have made the past 28 years.

Plans for the future: Begin working as the Fire Chief in Henrico County, Virginia.

Words of wisdom: Count your blessings and be thankful for what you have before asking for more. Treat all people with respect and take advantage of the many opportunities offered to all of us.

What got you interested in the fire service?

Influenced by the need for a fire and rescue department in a rural community and inspiration of my cousin, Butch Weedon, to start such an organization.

Who or what made an influence in your career? My brother Jim, Jim Adams, Jim O'Neale, Roy Pierpoint, and Hugh Wood. ♦

surplus fire engines because there was no other fire protection for the citizens where I lived and they needed help.

Who or what made an influence in your career?

Captain Marshall Curtis and Lieutenant Dave Collins set pretty high standards for performance that was a model for a new firefighter to emulate. Chief Alexander gave me a chance to start work on the Occupational Health program in 1977. Chief Warren Isman allowed me to reach new heights in my professional development and supported the acquisition of the trains and the highway trailers at the Fire and Rescue Academy. Chief Glenn Gaines entrusted me with leading the department's efforts to establish the Occupational Health and Safety Center and program, and Chief Edward Stinnette who provided encouragement and support while assigned to the Fire and Rescue Academy. ♦

Arrests/Petitions

Date: 01/12/01 **Box:** 0322 **Address:** 5035 Sideburn Road **Type:** School **Narrative:** The defendant pled guilty and must attend the Fire Stoppers Program and complete 25 hours of community service.

Date: 05/04/01 **Box:** 1700 **Address:** 6213 William Mosby Drive **Type:** Burn Case **Narrative:** The defendants each received one-year probation and must attend the Fire Stoppers Program.

Date: 04/30/01 **Box:** 1503 **Address:** 13516 Point Pleasant Drive **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** The defendants pled guilty and received 40 hours of community service and must attend the Fire Stoppers Program.

Date: 05/14/01 **Box:** 1708 **Address:** 5607 Pickwick Road **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** The defendant pled guilty and was sentenced to 12 months probation and must pay restitution.

Date: 05/14/01 **Box:** 0900 **Address:** 8484 Riverside Drive **Type:** School **Narrative:** The defendant pled guilty and must complete 50 hours of community service and pay restitution.

Date: 5/31/01 **Box:** 0507 **Address:** 6540 Franconia Road **Type:** School **Narrative:** Fire investigators charged one juvenile with setting a fire in a school. The defendant pled guilty to reduced charges and received 30 days in jail, 15 days suspended and one year probation.

Date: 6-01-01 **Box:** 0823 **Address:** 7000 Cindy Lane **Type:** School **Narrative:** Fire investigators charged two juveniles with setting a fire in a school. The defendants received five days in jail, six month suspended and one year probation.

Date: 5-31-01 **Box:** 3507 **Address:** 9013 Silverbrook Road **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** Fire investigators charged two juveniles with setting an outside fire. The defendants received 40 hours each of community service.

Date: 6-03-01 **Box:** 1402 **Address:** 5814 Bunker Woods Lane **Type:** Vehicle **Narrative:** Fire investigators charged two juveniles with burning personal property. A trial date was set for August.

Date: 6-1-01 **Box:** 2108 **Address:** 12104 Green Leaf Court **Type:** Apartment **Narrative:** Fire investigators charged one juvenile with possession of illegal fireworks. A trial date was set for September.

Date: 6-14-01 **Box:** 1400 **Address:** 1052 Burwick Drive **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** Fire investigators charged one juvenile with setting an outside fire. The defendant received one year probation and must attend the Fire Stoppers Program.

Date: 6-19-01 **Box:** 2122 **Address:** 4113 Stevenson Street **Type:** Comm **Narrative:** Fire investigators charged a 49-year-old female with setting a group home on fire. A preliminary hearing date was set for October.

Large Loss Fire Investigations

Date 06/01/01 Box 1092 Address 5597 Seminary Road Type: Highrise Cause Accidental-Electrical Value: \$40,000,000 Loss: \$200,000 Status: Closed
Date: 6/8/01 Box: 1407 Address 5103 Claytonia Court Type: House Cause: Accidental-Candle Value: \$245,000 Loss: \$50,000 Status: Closed
Date: 6/12/01 Box: 0946 Address: 8733 Plymouth Road Type: House Cause: Accidental-Electrical Value: \$250,000 Loss: \$100,000 Status: Closed
Date: 6/16/01 Box: 1510 Address: 13850 Barnsfield Type: Garage Cause: Undetermined Value: \$77,000 Loss: \$50,000 Status: Open
Date: 6-16-01 Box: 2400 Address: 4609 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway Type: House Cause: Accidental-Smoke Value: \$150,000 Loss: \$100,000 Status: Closed
Date: 6/17/01 Box: 2609 Address: 5820 Heming Avenue Type: House Cause: Accidental-Electrical Value: \$150,000 Loss: \$150,000 Status: Closed
Date: 6/22/01 Box: 2316 Address: 3712 Millbank Court Type: House Cause: Accidental-Lightning Value: \$450,000 Loss: \$50,000 Status: Closed
Date: 6-22-01 Box: 3507 Address: 9335 Braymore Circle Type: House Cause: Accidental-Lightning Value: \$400,000 Loss: \$200,000 Status: Closed
Date: 6-22-01 Box: 3507 Address: 9214 Bexleywood Court Type: House Cause: Accidental-Lightning Value: \$645,715 Loss: \$300,000 Status: Closed
Date: 7-7-01 Box: 2606 Address: 6274 Edsall Road Type: Apartment Cause: Under Investigation Value: \$3,500,000 Loss: \$100,000 Status: Open
Date: 7-10-01 Box: 1700 Address: 13830 Lee Highway Type: Commercial Cause: Accidental Value: \$150,000 Loss: \$50,000 Status: Closed
Date: 7-16-01 Box: 4400 Address: Center Street & Nash Street Type: Townhouses under construction Cause: Undetermined Value \$7.5 million Loss: \$7.5 million Status: Open
Date: 7-23-01 Box: 3704 Address: 5800 Broadmoor Street Type: House Cause: Accidental Value: \$426,000 Loss: \$130,000 Status: Closed
Date: 7-30-01 Box: 1138 Address: 5931 Monticello Road Type: House Cause: Undetermined Value: \$125,505 Loss: \$50,000 Status: Open



Firefighters' Fund of Fairfax County

The Firefighters' Fund of Fairfax County annual dinner/dance and retirement celebration will be here before you know it. The mission of the Fund is to provide aid and comfort to all Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department employees; including all firefighters, paramedics, civilians, and their families, both active and retired in times of special need. Support the Firefighters Fund by attending this annual event.

Mark your calendar for November 3, 2001, and make plans to attend the celebration. If you have any questions please call Jackie Lewis at (703) 246-3969 (e-mail Jacqueline.Lewis@co.fairfax.va.us)

Community Outreach Highlights

Firefighters Assist Handicapped With Water Ski Clinic

Fairfax County firefighters teamed up with National Capital Handicapped Sports assisting adults and children who are challenged in the area of movement, vision, and thinking skills for a day of fun and skiing at the Adaptive Water Ski Clinic for the handicapped on Sunday, August 5, 2001, at Pohick Regional Park.

Firefighters from Fire and Rescue Station 20 (Gunston) and others volunteered their time to be part of this worthy cause.



The award committee for the Annual National Coalition of Prison Ministries Conference selected Chaplain Grant McIntosh as one of its honorees. The "Advocate of the Year" award was presented to Chaplain McIntosh on June 29, 2001, at the Armour J.

Blackburn Center, Howard University, Washington D.C., for his unselfish contributions to communities.



Firefighter Christopher Morgan (10-B) helps participants at the Junior Fire Safety Olympics. Four teams of participants from local recreation centers compete to fill 55-gallon barrels. Each bucket brigade team competed to fill the container first.

Retirements

Technician Mark D. Dudrow
April 12, 1976 - July 13, 2001

Lieutenant Chester O. Hill
May 4, 1981 - June 1 2001

Deputy Chief Kenneth L. Jones
August 9, 1971 - August 31, 2001

Captain I David R. Ludeker
July 21, 1975 - June 2, 2001

Deputy Chief Ronald L. Mastin
April 2, 1973 - July 31, 2001

Technician Michael A. Weldon
May 4, 1981 - June 29, 2001

New Hires

Calvin M. Alexander

Mack E. Baugh

Sharon Beazer

Pedro P. Benavides

Keith F. Bresnahan

Clinton A. Brown

Patrick A. Butler

Eric S. Craven

Michael P. D'Amico

Andrew E. Dinkel

Daniel T. Hahn

Michael E. Klump

Garner Marshall

Stephen P. McCay

Frank J. Murphy IV

Alexander C. Obert

Clemente R. Rivera

William E. Thurston

Reginald L. Wadley

Frances J. Webb

Timothy D. Willard

Patrick N. Winemiller

Anniversaries

5 Years

Firefighter Michael D. Allen
Firefighter Lloyd W. Coburn
Shawn P. Crispin, Instructor III
Dominic A. Depaolis, Instructor III
Technician Kevin P. Edwards
Alex P. Fitch, Instructor III
Firefighter Martin J. Hood
Technician Christopher L. Johnson
Firefighter Peter C. Kehne
Technician James P. Kotwicki
Technician Scott L. Kraut
Marcia E. Larson, Instructor III
Technician Joseph M. Laun
Lieutenant Joseph D. Merritt
Technician William S. Moreland
Firefighter Gregory A. Morton
Acting Technician John R. Mudge
Technician Andrew J. Pumphrey
Acting Technician Vitor M. Rocha
Gyy R. Sandvik, Instructor III
Technician William T.
Schellhammer

Technician Brent M. Schnupp
Technician David Schwarzmamm
Firefighter Patricia A. Tomasello
Thomas K. Warnock
James H. Williams

10 Years

Brenda L. Tincher,
Management Analyst I

15 Years

Technician Jeffrey R. Allen
Lieutenant Robynn M. Berquist
Lieutenant Sandra K. Caple
Firefighter Kenneth W. Cornett
Captain II Garrett L. Dyer
Technician Mark B. Gauntner
Technician Barrett E. Gibbs
Lieutenant Raymond E. Griffin
Technician Jerold R. Manuel
Lieutenant Veckser T. Nesmith
Captain I John R. Niemiec
Firefighter Benjamin A. Rice

Master Technician Kevin T. Slack
Lieutenant Scott M. Smith
Lieutenant Donald L. Vaught

30 Years

Deputy Chief Kenneth L. Jones
Technician Edmund R. Neach
Assistant Chief Mark S. Wheatley

35 Years

Battalion Chief Larry B. Johnson



Deceased

Captain II Paul A. Nichols
February 28, 1977 - September 2, 2001

Firefighter Willard Upright, Retired
March 9, 1964 - February 1, 1979



Station Profile

Springfield Fire and Rescue Station #22

Captain II
Edgar L. Burlingame
Station Commander



Volunteer Chief
Derek Rowan

Station constructed: 1972, remodeled / addition 1995.

Station specialty: Highway operations, target hazards awareness.

Square miles in first due area: 7.4

Specific hazardous/target areas: I-95 "Mixing Bowl," Springfield Mall, Newington tank farm, Greenspring Village Retirement Community, Franconia-Springfield Metro Station, and General Services Administration Warehouse.

Total calls in 2000: 4,885

Equipment assigned to station: Engine, pumper, truck, medic, brush, utility (2), car, medic reserve (2), and pumper reserve.

Station personnel: **A-Shift:** Captain II Edgar I. Burlingame, Lieutenant Charles A. Martin, Lieutenant Elton W. Polen, Lieutenant Dwan D. Starks, Master Technician John L. Capps, Technician Sean T. Evans, Technician Erick L. Weinzapfel, Firefighter Robert A. Adeleke, Firefighter Michael L. Skeele, Firefighter, Rodney D. Snapp, and Firefighter Deborah G. Sparrer. **B-Shift:** Captain I Robert P. Ruwe, Lieutenant Virgil W. Derricott, Lieutenant Stephen E. Miller, Technician Charles L. Collier, Technician James P. Kotwicki, Technician John D. Leary, Firefighter Joel M. Fry, Firefighter John C. Macinyak, and Firefighter Robert W. Kitchen, Firefighter Eric D. McLaughlin. **C-Shift:** Captain I Troy D. Marshall, Lieutenant Frank W. Geiger, Lieutenant Anthony L. Liddell, Lieutenant Kathleen M. Stanley, Master Technician Richard A. Pettey, Technician Jeffrey S. Seabright, Firefighter Mark R. Butler, Firefighter Juan D. Campodonico, Firefighter Nicole Y. Gadell, Firefighter Donald O. Holland, Firefighter Gregory W. Hunter, and Firefighter Christopher H. Williams.

Volunteer President: John X. Ryan

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department

Attn: Public Information and Life Safety Education Section
4100 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Return Service Requested
Change Service Requested

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